

Hello volunteers;

There are three things that I would like to share with you in this letter: volunteer recognition, volunteer recruitment and access to the Southampton County Health Department.

Volunteer Recognition:

Our Operations and Management Plan discusses Volunteer Recognition and Retention and mentions that volunteer awards will be broken down into the following categories:

“Leadership Award ... presented to the volunteer who has excelled in obtaining a leadership (MRC Level 1 or 2) position in the unit through training, exercises and actual responses ... determined by... Reviewing VVHS generated deployment reports and nominations as submitted by co-volunteers, Public Health staff and sponsors/partnering organizations.”

“Volunteer of the Year Award ... will be presented to the volunteer with the highest number of volunteer hours accomplished for the time period between 1 April of one year to 30 March of the next year.”

“Other Awards ... may be nominated, or receive other awards and recognition at the discretion of the WTMRC Coordinator, WTHD Emergency Planner and the WTHD Director.”

Determining the top 3 volunteers within a category was not an easy or quick task by any stretch of the imagination; deciding the Volunteer of the Year was even more difficult! As with so many things in life, I didn't want to lose focus on all the tremendous contributions that each volunteer provides to our unit, to each other, and especially to our communities.

Our unit has continued to excel in all respects over the last year. Some say it's the efforts of the Coordinator; but, the Coordinator says it's the total force that each of us bring to the solution set that really makes the difference. So, before I go any further; please allow me to extend my most humble thanks and gratuitous appreciation to each of you for your energy, commitment, and involvement as we build a better Western Tidewater Medical Reserve Corps unit throughout 2013.

Please allow me to take a few precious moments (in no specific order) to extend my personal congratulations and recognize the following volunteers for their unique personal and professional achievements:

- Chelsea Harrison for attaining MRC level 1 qualifications
- Erin O'Rourke for attaining MRC Level 2 qualifications
- Tuhin Mukherjee for qualifying as an Emergency Medical Technician
- Lynnora Sumblin for assignment to the State Mass Fatality Response Team
- Margaret Aston for completing a Master of Healthcare Administration (MHA)
- Angela Perry for completing the Paul D. Camp School of Nursing Registered Nursing Program
- April Eure for completing the Paul D. Camp School of Nursing Registered Nursing Program
- Brittany Copeland for completing the Paul D. Camp School of Nursing Registered Nursing Program
- Chelsea Geary for completing the Paul D. Camp School of Nursing Registered Nursing Program
- Clare Overman for completing the Paul D. Camp School of Nursing Registered Nursing Program
- Dennis Vann for completing the Paul D. Camp School of Nursing Registered Nursing Program
- Laurel Pope for completing the Paul D. Camp School of Nursing Registered Nursing Program
- Mandi Edwards for completing the Paul D. Camp School of Nursing Registered Nursing Program
- Mariah Scofield for completing the Paul D. Camp School of Nursing Registered Nursing Program
- Melanie Marshall for completing the Paul D. Camp School of Nursing Registered Nursing Program

Western Tidewater Medical Reserve Corps - Coordinator Letter 6 May, 2013

It is my pleasure to announce and recognize those volunteer who have excelled at contributing their time, knowledge, skills and abilities to promote and enhance our unit's effort in meeting Virginia Department of Health initiative and response operations for the time period 30 March 2012 through 30 April 2013.

Level 2 Volunteer Award Recipients			
Category	1 st	2 nd	3 rd
Training	Erin O'Rourke	Margaret Aston	Reba Clayton
Exercise	TIED: Reba Clayton Nancy Wood	Carolynn Cunningham	No 3 rd place awarded
Program Support	Chelsea Harrison	Nancy Wood	Margaret Aston
Public Health	Chelsea Harrison	Reba Clayton	Carolynn Cunningham

Level 3 Volunteer Award Recipients			
Category	1 st	2 nd	3 rd
Training	Sean Catley	TIED: Mary Ange Lynnora Sumblin	Amy Stuck
Exercise	TIED: Dennis Vann Richard Hunting	TIED: Russell Parham Mariah Schofield Donald Fowler Clare Overman Christianne Fowler Amy Stuck	Michelle Harmon
Program Support	Russell Parham	Karen Poulter	Sean Catley
Public Health	Lorraine Smalls	Ann Gledhill	Mary Jo Ange

Volunteer of the Year Award Recipients:

Please join me in recognizing the following volunteers for their exceptional volunteerism spirit and dedication to the unit.

Level 1 Volunteer: Chelsea Harrison

Level 2 Volunteer: Reba Clayton, Nancy Wood

Level 3 Volunteer: Russell Parham

Recruitment Efforts:

I just recently completed a Department of Health Professionals based recruitment effort for Southampton County in which 96 letter were sent to potential volunteers. I'll be starting a similar Department of Health Professionals based recruitment effort for Franklin early next week, wherein approximately 165 recruitment letters of invitation will be sent.

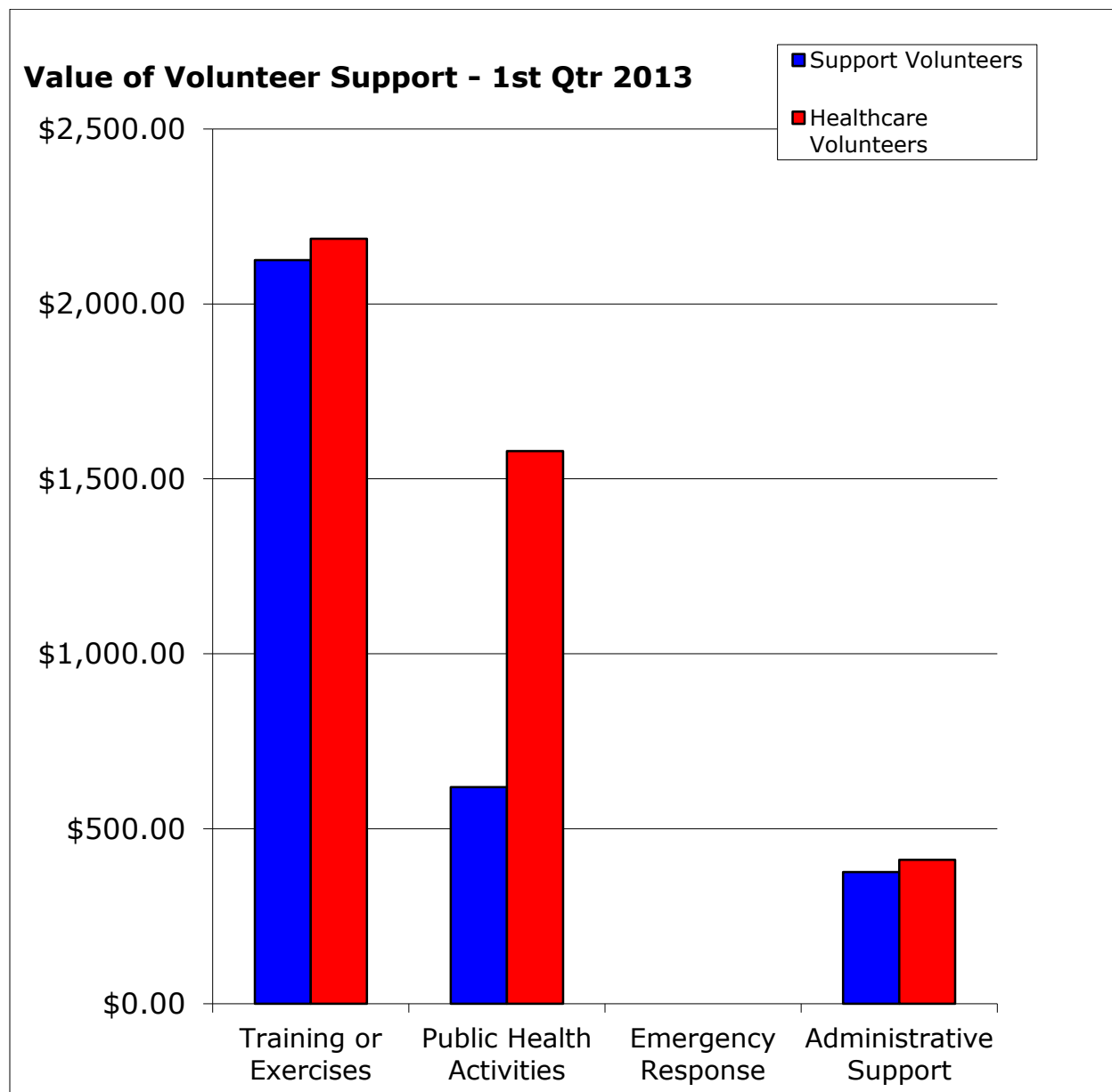
Once the Franklin recruitment effort is completed, *The Tidewater News* will place 10,000, 3x3 sticky note advertisements on the front cover of the newspaper during two separate dates across two separate distribution groups. The objective is to get as much saturation as we can and ensure that we have covered the Southampton, Franklin and south end of Suffolk as possible.

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I am happy to announce that we now have a total of 84 volunteer in our unit; and we continue to grow in strength and capabilities. As you all know training and commitment continues to be the principle gateways to our effective response and recovery operations!

Volunteer Numbers by Locality			
City of Suffolk	Town of Franklin	Isle of Wight County	Southampton County
37	11	22	11

I also wanted to include a graph from the Quarterly Unit report Card which effectively illustrates the categories in which I record and report activities and the visual return on investments that you are contributing towards.



All of the above is a direct reflection on our team and the success that we are having in recruitment!

Southampton County Health Department:

With the cooperation and concurrence of the Southampton County Health Department, I now have access to the building for training and orientation purposes.

Having access to the building should assist our volunteers who live in the south end of the district participate in training and other MRC events; I am working to provide more opportunities for our Franklin and Southampton volunteers to participate in regularly scheduled statewide MRC teleconference training event that run from 6-8pm on weeknights. I'll keep you posted.

Please feel free to contact me with your concerns and question as they arise. Take care of yourselves and get prepared for the Mid-Atlantic Hurricane Season; consider attending the IS-22: Are You Ready training events in May.

Thanks for your time, talent and expertise; it is a privilege to be associated with such a fine group or people!

Jim